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# Torrance Herald

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TWENTIETH YEAR—No. 18

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## COMMITTEES ARE NAMED AT COUNCIL SESSION TUESDAY

Mayor Ludlow Will Head Finance Committee Again; Klusman Retained as Chairman of Ordinance; Civil Service Board Elected

Purchase of a fire truck to be stationed in Waleria, appointment of committees and the election of the new civil service commission formed the principal business of the city council at its regular meeting held Tuesday night. An interested audience which filled the council chamber listened to the proceedings which were carried on amicably, and without a hitch when the council got under way at 7:45.

Following the reading of the minutes of previous sessions, City Clerk A. H. Bartlett read a communication from A. B. Davis, store keeper in Lomita, asking permission to distribute handbills in a portion of the city of Torrance.

Under the new licensing ordinance which covers this situation, such distribution carries a license fee of \$50 per day, for out-of-town firms, which in most cases is prohibitive and permission was denied.

Mayor Scott R. Ludlow read his list of appointments to committees. Mayor Scott R. Ludlow, chairman; W. H. Stanger, H. Tolson, Municipal park and recreation (new department), W. H. Tolson, chairman; J. E. Hitchcock, S. R. Ludlow, Ordinance, W. T. Klusman, chairman; Hitchcock and Stanger, Police, fire and lighting, Stanger, chairman; Hitchcock and Ludlow, Streets, sewers and city parks, Hitchcock, chairman; Tolson and Stanger.

On motion of Councilman Stanger, head of the police and fire department committee, Chief U. M. Calder was reduced to the rank of captain. The demotion of Chief Calder furnished one of the amusing highlights of the session, as later Councilman Stanger moved that he be promoted to the rank of chief, and after a hurried consultation with City Attorney C. T. Rippey moved that he be demoted again in order to bring the chief within the scope of authority of the new civil service commission. Fire Chief A. D. Stevenson was also demoted to the rank of captain.

Stanger also moved that the heads of all departments be retained in their offices. An ordinance, which brought out a protest from Councilman W. T. Klusman, placing the power to fix salaries of subordinates in the hands of the chiefs of departments, was approved for the first reading. Klusman objected to the ordinance on the ground that it was an invasion of the rights of the councilmanic body to control such salaries, and stated that the council had no right under the state constitution to delegate its powers to anyone.

City Attorney Rippey explained that the ordinance had been introduced as a measure of efficiency in handling departmental affairs, and that the council was in no sense delegating its powers or authority, since all such salaries fixed by department heads are in the language of the ordinance to be subject to the approval of the city council. In other words, the city attorney said, if the council did not approve the salary fixed by the employee would not get his money. Klusman countered by saying, that as a rule the council would approve payment at the salary fixed if the man had been regularly employed and had done the work, so that after all the matter would rest with the head of the department and not with the city council.

The ordinance was approved, with Klusman voting aye with the others. Klusman consistently refused to vote on the nomination and election of members of the new civil service commission and at the conclusion of the voting again asked to be recorded as opposed to the whole affair from start to finish. Members of the commission were named as follows: For the short term ending December 31, 1935, Alden W. Smith, term ending December 31, 1937, George Probert, term ending December 31, 1939, Irvin C. Rous. The commission will meet to organize and start on its duties within a short time.

**FALLS FROM LADDER**  
Will Wheaton of Los Angeles fell from a scaffold while assisting his brother, George Wheaton, 1228 Arlington avenue, to paint the Arlington street home. He cracked his head on the cement walk below. Twelve stitches were required to close the wound.

## Well-Known Young Men Are Named On Board

Prominent Business Men Will Form New Civil Service Commission

Personnel of the new civil service commission which was elected at the meeting of the city council on Tuesday evening, includes three well-known citizens of Torrance, all of them able and interested in promoting the efficiency of the departments which will be subject to their rules and regulations.

Alden W. Smith, proprietor of Howard's Jewelry Store, graduate engineer, has been in business in Torrance for several years, succeeding his brother, Howard, and taking over the latter's firm name. He was elected for the short term expiring in 1935.

George Probert, who will serve until the close of 1937, is proprietor of the Torrance Pharmacy. He has been a resident of this city for a number of years. He purchased the business he now owns from the Malone brothers, who were established on the corner of Carson and Cabrillo in the store room now occupied by the county unemployment bureau. Probert later moved to his present location across the street, where he has built up a thriving trade and had made his store a popular center for the younger men of the community.

Irvin C. Rous, elected for the long term, is also an old resident and well-known citizen of Torrance. He is employed at the Columbia Steel plant.

## New County of Long Beach Is Being Studied

Neighboring City Investigates Plan to Set Up Separate Government

With Long Beach now investigating the feasibility of a city-county government separate from Los Angeles, officials of the county government and of other 43 municipalities today were awaiting the results of the study being made by the county-wide committee of governmental simplification.

The beach city last Thursday appointed, through its Chamber of Commerce, a city-wide committee of 23 "non-political and unbiased" men giving a Los Angeles address, contacted J. C. Smith of the Torrance Investment Company, with a proposal to take an option to lease or buy the old carbon factory later used as a military academy. Negotiations were held up pending investigation of the proposition and it was learned that the proposed school would be composed of a mixed group, with possibly a pre-dominance of Negroes.

Several contacts of various groups were made by the two promoters, but when the situation was disclosed they met with no encouragement. However, an apparent attempt to promote such a school has been going on, at least up to last Friday, April 20, when an issue of "The Wise Men's Voice," a newspaper published at 3725 So. Central avenue, Los Angeles, contained a picture of the old military academy with the words beneath, "American Military Academy, Torrance, California. Where Every Boy Has His Chance." A full page streamer head in two-line letters read, "Military Academy to Open."

A two-column editorial explaining the methods and policies of the proposed school occupied the prominent position on the front page. Interviews with J. C. Smith this morning, however, brought the assertion that so far as his firm was concerned the deal had been dropped and that no lease, or option had been negotiated. Chamber of Commerce Secretary L. J. Gilmeister stated that so far as he knew the incident had been closed. Under the terms of the deeds to Torrance property no person not of the Caucasian race can own property within the limits of the original tract. However, this provision might be evaded by the purchase of property by Caucasians who could then use the premises for the establishment of such a school unless other regulatory measures

## Democrats Meet At Earl's Cafe

A meeting of the Democratic Club will be held Tuesday evening, May 1, at Earl's Cafe. The session will start at 8 o'clock, and the program will include a speaker and musical entertainment. All Democrats in Torrance and vicinity are invited to attend.

Six per cent per year carrying charges on purchase of electrical refrigerators at Star Furniture Co., 1273 Sartori avenue.—Adv.

## Fashion Show Proceeds Cooking School Friday

Penney's Fashions on Parade, will be presented tomorrow (Friday) afternoon at 1:15 p. m., at the Torrance Theatre as a prelude to the final session of the Safeway Stores' course in "Kitcheneering."

The fashion show will be in charge of Frank M. Buffington, manager of the local J. C. Penney Company store, and an interesting exhibition of the newest Spring and Summer apparel is promised. Evening type dresses, afternoon frocks, sports wear, suits, coats and house frocks of unusual and attractive design, will be displayed by living models before the footlights. As it will be necessary to clear the stage before 2 p. m. when the closing session of the cooking school begins, it is imperative to open the fashion show at 1:15 sharp, and those wishing to secure a good seat are urged to come as early as possible. Doors of the theatre will open at 13:45 p. m. No admission charge will be made and everyone is invited to attend.

## Public Schools Week

In another day, "Public Schools Week" for 1934 will have become just another chronicle. One week out of the 52; very possibly but one day out of that week; and again very possibly but an hour out of that day, devoted to the most vital problem of our National American Life; for we know that, the specious arguments of communism, the rapid chatter of the charlatan and the false pretense of the thousand and one "isms" which are directed at us today, can find no lodgment in a mind educated to know the true value of the public schools. This week, one day, one hour, let us rather maintain a constant interest in our schools and let that interest be an active interest.

The closing celebration in Torrance will be at the Woman's clubhouse, Friday afternoon and evening, April 27, where school exhibits may be viewed in the late afternoon and early evening. A delicious turkey dinner, prepared and served by the high school cooking classes, will be served at 6:30 p. m. During the dinner and immediately thereafter

we will be entertained by a short but snappy program, and following this, the speaker of the evening, Mr. Byron Fitts, district attorney of Los Angeles county, will address us. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors has invited these to meet the citizens of Torrance. Tickets for the dinner are 45 cents a plate. Those who cannot come to the dinner should try and attend later to hear Mr. Fitts and meet the board of education.

## PROPOSAL TO OPEN SCHOOL HERE MEETS OPPOSITION

Los Angeles Promoters of Military Academy For Mixed Races Meet With No Encouragement From Civic Authorities and Groups

Attempts to open a military academy which is said to be open to enrollment of pupils without regard to creed or race, will probably come to naught, according to officials of the community who have been interviewed on the subject today.

Two or three weeks ago, two men giving a Los Angeles address, contacted J. C. Smith of the Torrance Investment Company, with a proposal to take an option to lease or buy the old carbon factory later used as a military academy. Negotiations were held up pending investigation of the proposition and it was learned that the proposed school would be composed of a mixed group, with possibly a pre-dominance of Negroes.

Several contacts of various groups were made by the two promoters, but when the situation was disclosed they met with no encouragement. However, an apparent attempt to promote such a school has been going on, at least up to last Friday, April 20, when an issue of "The Wise Men's Voice," a newspaper published at 3725 So. Central avenue, Los Angeles, contained a picture of the old military academy with the words beneath, "American Military Academy, Torrance, California. Where Every Boy Has His Chance." A full page streamer head in two-line letters read, "Military Academy to Open."

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## Mean Thief Steals Banquet Speaker's Shirts and Hosiery

The theft last Thursday of seven pairs of socks and several shirts from the backyard clothesline, left Milton Everett, Torrance high school senior, practically naked, so far as these important articles of dress were concerned. Milt was to speak at the World Friendship banquet on the following night, which made his predicament all the more serious. He scurried around Friday and managed to scare up a shirt and a pair of socks in time to come "Smiling Through" with his topic on schedule. The episode added a few more splices to the "Smiles" theme of the banquet, although it looked for a while as if Milt were going to be barefoot and gum.

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\* "I'LL TELL THE WORLD" \*  
\* Stanley Brown, the dynamo, fast-talking young correspondent for the United Press, arrives today!  
\* Follow him in his loves and adventures as he gazes at the world-wide news in "I'll Tell the World," a twelve-chapter serialization of a motion picture.  
\* You'll find the thrilling tale as it starts today on page 5-A of this issue of the Torrance Herald & Lomita News.  
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## SERA Branch Office Opens In This City

Quarters At 1953 Carson Street Will Be Occupied By New Setup

After two weeks of preparation, during which a lease was signed and the quarters were made ready for use as offices and warehouse, a branch of the SERA opened in Torrance yesterday at 1953 Carson street, in the building owned by Mrs. T. P. Watters. Both the downstairs storeroom, formerly used as a bowling alley, and the upper floor, now used as a dance and recreation hall, have been leased and will be in use in the relief activities of the State Employment Relief Administration. N. Sanders will be in charge as general manager. G. Reid will be his assistant. The work will be directed out of the central office located at 711 South Flower street, Los Angeles, in charge of Frank K. McLaughlin, county director.

The first work to be undertaken by the 23 branch offices of which Torrance is one, will be a survey to determine the number of county residents who are actually in need of aid.

Persons listed with both public and private welfare agencies. An engineering planning board will pass on all projects submitted as employment relief work projects, suggest new ones and despatch to Washington those approved by Harry L. Hopkins, federal relief administrator.

## Supervisors Go East to Seek Federal Funds

Quinn and Thatcher Leave This Week For Washington

With the announced purpose of "seeking federal funds," Chairman John R. Quinn of the board of supervisors and Supervisor Hugh A. Thatcher left for Washington early this week.

Supervisor Thatcher, who is chairman of the board's flood control committee, is going east to attend the 20th annual meeting of the National Rivers and Harbor Congress. He recently was appointed a member of the congress through Congressman Charles J. Coiden of San Pedro.

What county officials fear and desire to avoid is any real excuse for a May Day demonstration, it was learned at the Hall of Records. The situation today is materially improved from what it was in the middle of last week, however, since the state has granted the county another loan of \$1,000,000 for direct relief in the county. This money was advanced from the state unemployment relief bond issue of last summer.

With the aid of more than 200 additional temporary clerks and visitors, the county charities department today was endeavoring to catch up on its work of properly registering the hundreds of persons that have applied for aid since the discontinuance of the CWA.

## Probation Denied To Blond Burglar

William V. Morgan, so-called "blond burglar" of the Palos Verdes Estates, was scheduled to enter San Quentin prison this week, under sentence of Los Angeles superior court. Morgan was denied probation when he came before the court for sentence late last week. Charged with five counts of burglary, Morgan pleaded guilty to two counts and asked for probation. Nicknamed the "blond burglar," because of his fair complexion, Morgan was captured through the efforts of Palos Verdes police and sheriff's deputies.

## NEARLY 900 ATTEND FIRST CLASS OF COOKING SCHOOL

Torrance Theatre Expected to Be Filled to Capacity For Session Today and Friday; Gas Range to Be Given Away Today

FRIGIDAIRE WILL BE AWARDED TOMORROW  
Penney Company Fashion Show On the Stage At 1:15 P. M. Friday to Precede Cooking School Session At 2 P. M.

The largest gathering of women ever assembled in Torrance witnessed the opening session of the Torrance Herald-Safeway Stores' Course in "Kitcheneering" yesterday afternoon and pronounced it a huge success.

In spite of the fact that nearly 100 additional chairs had been installed, all but about 25 of the 900 seats at the Torrance Theatre were occupied by interested homemakers yesterday afternoon. Arrangements are being made to provide a few extra chairs for today and tomorrow, but judging from the keen interest shown at the opening class yesterday, it is apparent that capacity houses can be expected for the two remaining days and guests are urged to come early if they wish to be assured of a seat at the theatre.

## New Truck Is Added to City Fire Equipment

Residents of Waleria and Hollywood Riviera to Get Protection

Residents of Waleria and Hollywood Riviera was provided by the city council Tuesday night when that body voted to purchase an American-made Type 40 pumper, 350-gallon capacity, which will be stationed in Waleria under charge of a qualified fireman. The machine was obtained at a considerable reduction under its regular price as the truck is not new, but has been reconditioned and has passed rigid Underwriters tests showing that it is in first class condition and "fit for the work it will be called on to do. This pumper, which has already been delivered to the fire station in Torrance, was obtained for the sum of \$1800. Its original purchase price was a trifle over \$10,000.

For a short time the machine will be held in the central station on Cravens avenue while needed repairs are being made to the big truck and will be sent to Waleria as soon as the latter machine is returned from the shops. Pumping of water laden with sand and gravel has caused wear and tear which has lowered the pumping and the council authorized immediate repairs.

With the smaller pumper, which Underwriters declare fills all requirements, on duty at Waleria, calls from that section will be taken care of without the necessity of using machines from the central station, which will be used only in cases of great emergency in the outlying districts.

Underwriters have found fault with the setup in Torrance, because of the great distances that fire machines were required to travel, which called the central fire trucks far from the station. In case of a second fire in another part of town the firemen would be at a decided disadvantage and the city itself in grave danger.

With the purchase of the new machine this danger is obviated. City Councilman W. H. Stanger of the police and fire department committee, also reported on conditions in the McDonald tract, which he stated were terrible. Only three small hydrants in isolated places were available and these were of a type not suited to the standard equipment in use by the fire department.

Stanger was authorized to take the matter up with water companies serving that district in an effort to bring about more desirable service, but City Clerk Bartlett reported that these water companies had been contacted at other times prior to this date, and had shown little disposition to co-operate. A strong effort will be made to bring them into the line of co-operation so that the McDonald tract may be adequately served.

## Man Is Arrested For Beating Dog

Bob Russell, 1745 Date street, was arraigned in the Lomita justice court, April 23, on a charge preferred by Humane Officer D. V. Davison, of beating a fox terrier dog belonging to Henry Grubb. Several neighbors were witnesses to the affair. Russell plead not guilty and asked for a jury trial which will be held before Judge John Dennis on May 4.

Although the alleged offense was committed in city territory the charge was brought under a section of the state penal code relating to cruelty to animals, when local authorities turned the case over to the humane officer for this district.

## W. H. Bollman Dies Saturday

William H. Bollman, 51 years old, Lomita hardware merchant and for 12 years a resident of Torrance, died Saturday evening at his home, 1008 Cedar street. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Madeline L. Bollman. Services were conducted at Stone & Myers by Rev. McCellan of the First Presbyterian church of Hollywood. Burial was made at Inglewood Park cemetery.